

KIDCARE UPDATE



JANUARY 2002

The New Year brings continued excitement and energy concerning Connecticut Community KidCare. During December, the South Central became the first region to begin contracting for new services and activities under KidCare.

The South Central region executed three contracts for the purpose of providing Emergency Mobile Services and Care Coordination. EMS is a service that provides assessment and intervention for children and youth who are experiencing a psychiatric crisis. A core aspect of this service is its mobile capacity. EMS providers are available to provide services in a child's home, school or other site of crisis.

Care Coordination provides brokerage and linkage to a network of services for children with complex services needs and their families. Care Coordination, through the Systems of Care Community Collaboratives, offers children and families who are receiving multiple services, care management and coordination. Seven and a half (7.5) additional Care Coordination positions have been contracted for in the South Central region.

The EMS/CC contractors in the South Central region are as follows:

Contractor	Catchment Area Served
Bridges . . . A Community Support System, Inc.	Lower Naugatuck Valley
Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic, Inc.	Greater New Haven
Meriden/Wallingford	Meriden/Wallingford and Middlesex County

Related, additional Extended Day Treatment programs and slots have been contracted for in the South Central region to bolster that area's community-based service array.

Training, through the KidCare Institute, has been occurring in the South Central, NorthWest and North Central regions. Training facilitators, recipients and organizers indicate that these various training sessions have been extremely positive and successful. Training to the broader community has begun in the South Central and will begin shortly in the NorthWest Region. The Eastern and SouthWest Regions are in the process of identifying trainers for their areas. Questions concerning the KidCare Institute can be directed to Tim Marshall: tim.marshall@po.state.ct.us

DCF and the State Department of Education are convening meetings with the Regional Educational Service Centers (RESC) and their attending communities concerning KidCare and the Systems of Care Community Collaboratives. These meetings are meant to facilitate information exchange and knowledge enhancement concerning the role of education and schools within the KidCare construct. Meetings have already been held in the South Central region, and North West region's meeting

is to be convened on January 25, 2002. Another meeting is slated in South Central, with others occurring in the Eastern, North Central and SouthWest regions.

Finally, the KidCare Kickoff Celebration was held in New Haven on January 22, 2002. Over 300 attendees, including Commissioners from DCF and the Departments of Social Services, Mental Health and Addiction Services and Education; Office of Policy and Management Secretary Marc Ryan; and Senators Toni Harp and Joseph Crisco participated in honoring the work of Governor John G. Rowland and State Legislators for all their assistance and support of KidCare. Kickoff celebrations are also being planned for the other regions to correspond with their KidCare rollout dates. Further information about these future events will be forthcoming.

As always, should you have any comments or questions about KidCare, please do not hesitate to contact the Division of Mental Health.